

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A network system, comprising:
a first information processing apparatus capable of being loaded with a first recording medium; and
a second information processing apparatus capable of being connected to the first information processing apparatus via a network;

wherein the second information processing apparatus is ~~operative~~operable to receive first unique information and second unique information, from the first information processing apparatus over the network, the first unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium, ~~and further~~the second information processing apparatus is operative being further operable to make reference to each of the received first and second unique information and also to third information to verify the first recording medium, the third information being stored in within a database which is included in, or connected to, the second information processing apparatus and capable of accumulating, erasing or otherwise altering information, to perform verification of the recording medium.

2. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein the second information processing apparatus is operable to cause further enables the database to store at least one of the first accumulate either of the unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus or the second unique information relating to the first recording medium.

3. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein the second information processing apparatus

~~further enables~~ is operable to cause the database to ~~accumulate~~ store both of the first and second unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the unique information relating to the first recording medium.

4. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the information within the database comprises either of the first unique information or the second relating to the first information processing apparatus or the unique information relating to the first recording medium, which is pre-recorded in the database is stored in the database prior to when the second information processing apparatus receives the first unique information and the second unique information from the first information processing apparatus, and the third information includes at least one of the first unique information stored in the database or the second unique information stored in the database.

5. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein the third information within the database comprises both of includes the first unique information stored in the database relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information stored relating to the first recording medium, which are pre-recorded in the database.

6. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 2, wherein the second information processing apparatus is operable to cause updated third information to be stored in the database when the second information processing apparatus receives new information including at least one of the first unique information or the second unique information from the

~~first information processing apparatus within the database is updated to newly accumulated information.~~

7. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 2, wherein the second information processing apparatus is operable to cause at least one of the first unique information or the second unique information to be stored in the database system ~~is configured such that whenever unauthorized usage of the first recording medium occurs, either of the unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus or the unique information relating to the first recording medium is accumulated in the database.~~

8. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein the second information processing apparatus further enables or disables is operable to enable or disable processing to be performed in the first information processing apparatus from performing processing.

9. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein the second information processing apparatus further enables or disables is operable to enable or disable the first information processing apparatus from reading to read out a program stored in the first recording medium.

10. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 8, wherein the second information processing apparatus is operative-operable to transmit at least one of a permission signal for enabling processing to be performed by the first information processing apparatus to perform processing or an inhibit signal for disabling processing to be performed by the first information processing apparatus from performing processing.

11. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 10, wherein the network system is operable to enable the first information processing apparatus to perform processing is configured such that when the results of the reference made by the second information processing apparatus indicates that the third information corresponds ~~corresponding to the first unique information received from the first information processing apparatus relating to the first recording medium is accumulated in the database,~~ the processing to be performed by the first information processing apparatus is enabled.

12. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 10, wherein:

the network system is operable to cause the first unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium to be stored may be accumulated as interrelated information in the database, and,
~~the system is configured such that~~ when the results of the reference made by the second information processing apparatus indicates that the first unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium, received by the second information processing apparatus, match with the interrelated information in the database, the network system is operable to enable the processing to be performed by the first information processing apparatus to perform processing is enabled.

13. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 9, wherein the first information processing apparatus is

operable to encrypt the program stored in the first recording medium and to store the encrypted program+

~~an encrypted program is stored in the first recording medium;~~
and

the second information processing apparatus is ~~operative~~
operable to transmit information for decrypting the encrypted
program stored in the first recording medium ~~that is encrypted~~
~~by the first information processing apparatus,~~ to enable the
first information processing apparatus to read and decrypt the
encrypted program stored in ~~reading of the first recording medium~~
~~by the first information processing apparatus.~~

14. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 13, wherein the information for decrypting ~~comprises~~
includes a decryption key.

15. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein:

the network system is connected to a third information processing apparatus capable of being loaded with a second recording medium different from the first recording medium; and

the second information processing apparatus is ~~operative~~
operable to receive third unique information relating to the
second recording medium from the third information processing
apparatus when the second information processing apparatus
receives the second, ~~along with receipt of the unique~~
~~information relating to the first recording medium from the~~
first information processing apparatus.

16. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 15, wherein the second information processing apparatus is ~~operative~~
operable to make reference to the first unique
information relating to the first recording medium received from

~~the first information processing apparatus and the third unique information, relating to the second recording medium received from the third information processing apparatus; and, if the same unique information as made reference to by the second information processing apparatus occur simultaneously and when the first and third unique information are the same when the second information processing apparatus makes reference thereto,~~
the second information processing apparatus is operable to disable enables or disables the third information processing apparatus from reading to read out a program stored in the second recording medium.

17. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 16, wherein the second information processing apparatus is ~~operative operable to transmit fourth information, to the first information processing apparatus, information for confirmation of~~ confirming whether the third information processing apparatus is allowed to execution processing of ~~execute a program stored on the second recording medium to be performed in the third information processing apparatus is allowed or not.~~

18. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 17, wherein the first information processing apparatus is operable to provide consent to the third information processing apparatus for the third information processing apparatus to execute a program stored on the second recording medium and the third information processing apparatus is operable to perform the execution processing of ~~execute a program stored on the second recording medium when the second third information processing apparatus receives the consent from the first information processing apparatus.~~

19. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein:

the first information processing apparatus is further capable of being loaded with a third recording medium; and

the second information processing apparatus is ~~operative~~ operable to transmit the first unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium, to the first information processing apparatus, after the second information processing apparatus it has received each of the first and second unique information from the first information processing apparatus, and then the first information processing apparatus is operable to enable enables the second recording medium to store each of said the first unique information and the second unique information after the second information processing apparatus receives the first unique information and the second unique information.

20. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 19, wherein the first information processing apparatus is operable to make makes reference to the second unique information relating to the first recording medium as well as and fourth information stored in the third recording medium to verify the third recording medium.

21. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 20, wherein the first information processing apparatus is enabled to perform processing when results of the reference made by the first information processing apparatus indicates that the fourth information stored in the third recording medium eorresponding corresponds to the second unique information relating to the first recording medium is stored in the third

~~recording medium, the processing to be performed by the first information processing apparatus is enabled.~~

22. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein the first unique information ~~relating to~~ ~~respective information processing apparatus~~ includes ~~is~~ an apparatus ID.

23. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein the second unique information ~~relating to~~ ~~respective information processing apparatus~~ is includes a user ID.

24. (currently amended) A network system according to claim 1, wherein the first unique information ~~relating to~~ ~~respective recording medium~~ is includes a recording medium ID.

25. (currently amended) A ~~computer~~ network system according to claim 1, wherein the first recording medium ~~storing the application programs~~ is an optical disk, and the second unique information relating to ~~said the first~~ recording medium is includes a disk ID.

26. (currently amended) A network ~~computer~~ system according to claim 25, wherein the disk ID is recorded in a region within a data area of the optical disk or in a region other than the data area of the optical disk.

27. (currently amended) A network ~~computer~~ system according to claim 25, wherein an address of disk ID data is recorded in a data area of the optical disk and the first information processing apparatus is operable to detect the disk

~~ID is detected by a computer based on the recorded an address of disk ID data recorded in a data area of the optical disk.~~

28. (currently amended) A ~~computer~~—network system according to claim 25, wherein the disk ID is recorded in the optical disk with an organic coloring matter.

29. (currently amended) A ~~computer~~—network system according to claim 25, wherein the disk ID is ~~formed with a method using~~ recorded by physical changes in pit rows.

30. (currently amended) A ~~computer~~—network system according to claim 29, wherein the ~~method using~~ physical changes in pit rows include at least ~~uses~~ one of a change in radical direction of pit rows, a change in the minor axis direction of pit size, ~~and or~~ a change in the depth direction of pits in the pit rows.

31. (currently amended) A ~~computer~~—network system according to claim 26, wherein the disk ID is recorded by ~~formed with a method using~~ electronic watermarking.

32. (currently amended) A method of performing verification of a recording medium loadable within a first information processing system ~~by utilizing a network system, wherein said system comprises a first information processing apparatus capable of being loaded with a first recording medium, and a second information processing apparatus capable of being connected to the first information processing apparatus via a network,~~ said method comprising the steps of:

receiving first unique information and second unique information from the first information processing apparatus by ~~using the a~~ second information processing apparatus, to receive,

~~from the first information processing apparatus, the first~~
unique information relating to the first information processing
apparatus and the second unique information relating to the
first recording medium; and

using the second information processing apparatus to make
reference to each of the received first and second unique
information and ~~also to third information stored in within a~~
database ~~which is included in, or connected to,~~ the second
information processing apparatus ~~and is capable of accumulating,~~
~~erasing or otherwise modifying information, whereby to verify~~
~~verification of the first recording medium is performed~~ is
authorized for use.

33. (currently amended) A first information processing
apparatus capable of being loaded with a first recording medium
and capable of being connected to a second information
processing apparatus via a network, ~~wherein the first~~
information processing apparatus being operable is operative to
transmit first unique information and second unique information,
to the second information processing apparatus, the first unique
information relating to the first information processing
apparatus and the second unique information relating to the
first recording medium, ~~such that the first information~~
processing apparatus being operable to verify the first
recording medium is verified by making reference to each of ~~said~~
the transmitted information and also to third information stored
in within a database which is included in, or connected to, the
second information processing apparatus ~~and is capable of~~
~~accumulating, erasing or otherwise modifying information.~~

34. (currently amended) A second information processing
apparatus capable of being connected through a network to a
first information processing apparatus, the first information

processing apparatus being that is capable of being loaded with a first recording medium, ~~wherein the second information processing apparatus is operative being operable to~~ a) receive first unique information and second unique information, from the first information processing apparatus, the first unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium, and to b) make reference to each of said the received first and second unique information and to third information stored in within a database which is included in, or connected to, the second information processing apparatus and is eapable of accumulating, erasing or otherwise modify information, to verify perform verification of the first recording medium.

35. (currently amended) A recording medium ~~eapable of being executed by a second information processing apparatus which is connected through a network to a first information proecessing apparatus eapable of being loaded with a first recording medium, wherein the reecording medium stores storing a program for use in verifying a first recording medium for use in a network system, the network system including a first information processing apparatus connectable to a second information processing apparatus over a network, the first recording medium having a program stored thereon, the program being executable eapable of being read and executed by the second information processing apparatus, and wherein the program is eapable of causing to cause the second information processing apparatus to perform the steps of:~~

receiving first unique information and second unique information, from the first information processing apparatus, the first unique information relating to the first information

processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium; and

making reference to each of the received first and second unique information and ~~also to third information stored in within a database which is included in,~~ or connected to, the second information processing apparatus ~~and is capable of accumulating, erasing or otherwise modifying information, to verifyperform verification of~~ the first recording medium.

36. (currently amended) A recording medium storing a first program executable by ~~capable of being executed by~~ a first information processing apparatus, the first information processing apparatus being ~~which is capable of being loaded with~~ a first recording medium and ~~further capable of being connectable~~ connected to a second information processing apparatus via a network, wherein the recording medium stores a program executable ~~capable of being read and executed by~~ the first information processing apparatus, ~~and wherein the~~ first program is being executable to cause ~~capable of causing~~ the first information processing apparatus to perform the steps of:

transmitting first unique information and second unique information, to the second information processing apparatus, the first unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium; and

making reference to each of the transmitted first and second unique information and ~~also to third information stored in within a database which is included in,~~ or connected to, the second information processing apparatus ~~and is capable of accumulating, erasing or otherwise modifying information, to verifyperform verification of~~ the first recording medium.

37. (currently amended) A storage medium ~~containing a program capable of being executed by a second information processing apparatus which is connected through a network to a first information processing apparatus capable of being loaded with a first recording medium, wherein the recording medium stores~~ storing a program for use in verifying a first recording medium for use in a network system including a first information processing apparatus connectable to a second information processing apparatus via a network, the first recording medium having a program stored thereon, the program being executable ~~capable of being read and executed by the second information processing apparatus, and wherein the program is capable of causing to cause~~ the second information processing apparatus to perform the steps of:

receiving first unique information and second unique information, from the first information processing apparatus, the first unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium; and

making reference to each of the received first and second unique information and ~~also to~~ third information stored in ~~within a database which is included in, or connected to, the second information processing apparatus and is capable of accumulating, erasing or otherwise modifying information, to verify~~ perform verification of the first recording medium.

38. (currently amended) A storage medium containing a first program executable ~~capable of being executed by a first information processing apparatus, the first information processing apparatus~~ ~~which is capable of being loaded with a first recording medium and further capable of being connected to a second information processing apparatus via a network, wherein~~

the program is executable to cause~~capable of causing~~ the first information processing apparatus to perform the steps of:

transmitting first unique information and second unique information, to the second information processing apparatus, the first unique information relating to the first information processing apparatus and the second unique information relating to the first recording medium; and

making reference to each of the transmitted first and second unique information and ~~also to third information stored in within a database which is included in~~, or connected to, the second information processing apparatus ~~and is capable of accumulating, erasing or otherwise modifying information, to verify perform verification of~~ the first recording medium.

39. (new) The network system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second information processing apparatus is operable to determine whether the first recording medium is authorized for use when the second information processing apparatus verifies the first recording medium.

40. (new) The network system as claimed in claim 39, wherein the determination includes a determination of whether the first recording medium is authorized for use in the first information processing apparatus.

41. (new) The method as claimed in claim 32, further comprising, when the second information processing apparatus verifies the first recording medium, determining whether the first recording medium is authorized for use.

42. (new) The method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the step of determining whether the first recording medium is authorized for use includes determining whether the first recording medium is authorized for use in the first information processing apparatus.